

A FREE PAPER FOR FREE KIDS

# indykids



Hip Hop  
Hooray!

STORY ON PAGE 6

Issue #8 ★ March/April 2007

## Who Decides if U.S. Troops Stay or Go?

### IRAQ BY THE NUMBERS

**650,000**

Estimated  
number  
of Iraqis killed  
so far in the  
war

**3,114**

U.S. soldiers  
killed in war  
as of Feb. 10

**\$200  
billion**

Cost of the  
war in Iraq  
each year



**132,000**

Number  
of U.S. troops  
in Iraq now

**21,500**

Number  
of new U.S.  
troops that  
President  
Bush plans to  
send to Iraq

**70%**

Percentage  
of Americans  
who oppose  
sending more  
troops to Iraq

Sources: News  
reports; Associated  
Press/Ipsos poll



ANDREWSTERN.NET

A boy sits on a destroyed Iraqi tank near the border between Iraq and Kurdistan. Kurdish children painted the tank and pushed it to the border as a symbol of peace.

### As Iraqi Civil War Erupts, Bush Wants Troop 'Surge'

By AMANDA VENDER

In January and early February major bombings in Iraq killed hundreds of people and destroyed markets and homes. About 3,000 Iraqis are being killed each month according to the United Nations.

The United States invaded Iraq in March 2003 and overthrew Iraq's president Saddam Hussein. As a result, the differences between Iraq's different ethnic and religious groups worsened and have since grown into civil war.

Since the U.S. invasion, no weapons of mass destruction have been found in Iraq. Polls show that the majority of Americans think the war was a mistake. According to a World Public Opinion poll, the majority of Iraqis want a plan for the U.S. troops to leave.

In January, President Bush vowed instead to send 21,500 more U.S. troops

to Iraq to restore security. This angered many people who think the troops should come home. "I think Congress needs to follow the dictate of the American people and withdraw troops and cut off funding," said Norma

Brown of the organization World Can't Wait – Drive Out the Bush Regime.

Leaders in Congress have said they will not use their power to stop funding for the war. "Democrats will never cut off funding for our troops when they are in harm's way," said House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

Meanwhile, activists are planning more activities and another demonstration for the March 17 anniversary of the U.S. invasion of Iraq. "It's not about U.S. troop reduction. We want an end to U.S. occupation of Iraq," said Mahdi Bray of the Muslim American Society Freedom Foundation. "It is we the people who must end this war."

“IT IS WE  
THE PEOPLE  
WHO MUST  
END THIS  
WAR.”

—Mahdi Bray

### MARCH IN WASHINGTON

Why did more than 100,000 people go to Washington, D.C. on January 27 to protest the war in Iraq? President Bush says the U.S. is fighting for freedom in Iraq, but millions of Americans and Iraqis think the U.S. is there to take control of the country.

One girl's sign read, "Thanks for the deficit, Doofus!" referring to the billions of dollars spent to fight the war. Protesters chanted, "Money for jobs and education, not for war and occupation!" Julia, 9, who was at the protest, said the Iraq war "is not for our protection; it's just for oil." —MARC LaFLECHE



EMMANUEL FUENTEBELLA

Many in the crowd at the January 27 demonstration in Washington, D.C., said that President Bush should be removed from office.



## AUSTRALIA QUICK FACTS

**Population:** 20 million • **Capital:** Canberra • **Ethnic groups:** White (92%); Asian (7%); Aboriginal and other (1%)  
**Languages:** English (79%); Chinese (2%); Italian (2%); Other (11%); Unspecified (6%) • **History:** Australia has been inhabited for more than 42,000 years by indigenous people. Australia was colonized by Britain in 1770 and became a self-governing commonwealth in 1901.

## MEET MARLEA FROM AUSTRALIA

**Name:** Marlea Mason, 8 **Home:** Sydney, Australia

**Identified background:** Aboriginal (a-bor-I-ji-nal), or native Australian

**Language:** Koori English

**Religion/Culture:** Aboriginal culture is an oral culture of storytelling, dancing, singing and the Dreamtime. The Dreamtime story of creation says that our ancestors walked the earth and created things from dreams and visions.

**Favorite subject in school:** Science

**Favorite food:** Fried rice

**Living situation:** “I live with my mum and my little brother David.”

**Parents’ work:** “My mum works at Wirringa Baiya Aboriginal Women's Legal Centre. She is an administration officer.”

**Favorite sport:** Netball, a game like basketball

**What she wants to be when she grows up:** A police officer

**What she knows about the United States:** “There are lots of people, and they speak funny.”

—MARIANNA LEISHMAN, COMMON LANGUAGE PROJECT



Marlea, center, at her brother's birthday party. The other kids in the photo are Marlea's cousins.

LEONIE MASON

## Learn a little Koori, Cuz!

**Koori** is a dialect of English, meaning that it is mostly like the English we know, but it has some different vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation. Some examples:

**Having a yarn:** talking

**Deadly:** awesome or funny

**Gubba:** a white man

**Gunies:** police officer

**Cuz:** What you call someone your own age

**Aunty/Uncle:** an older woman or man in the community

# Army Officer Faces Trial for Refusing to Go to Iraq

By XAVIER TAYO

**L**ieutenant Ehren Watada is the first U.S. Army commissioned officer to refuse an order to go to Iraq and to publicly speak out against the war. “The Iraqi war is not legal according to domestic and international law,” he said. A commissioned officer is a soldier who has a university degree and has command over a unit.

Lt. Watada was court-martialed and

faced several years in prison because of his stand. A court-martial is a military court (made up of members of the military) that tries and decides punishment for soldiers.

Watada is charged with conduct unbecoming an officer, missing movement to Iraq, and contempt toward the President. Military personnel are not allowed to speak about their political views.

But Lt. Watada felt he had to speak out

against the Iraq war. “Only following orders is never an excuse. To stop an illegal and unjust war, soldiers and service members can choose to stop fighting it,” he said.

Lt. Watada’s court-martial began on February 5 at Fort Lewis in Washington State. But on the third day the judge declared a mistrial over a document that Lt. Watada signed admitting to statements he had made. The new trial will begin on March 19. His defense lawyer objected to the mistrial and said a second trial would amount to double jeopardy, or more than one prosecution for the same alleged crime.

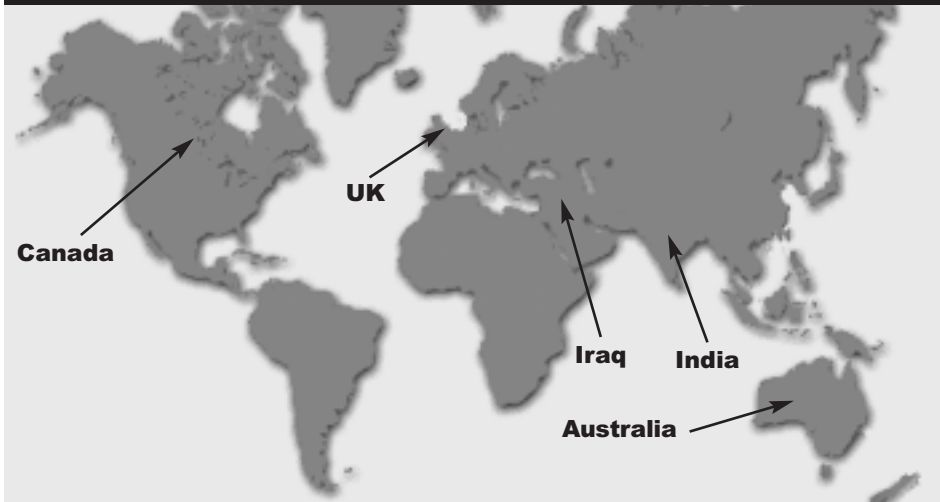
Many well-known people have voiced their support of Lt. Watada including actors, artists and U.S. Reps. Mike Honda and Dennis Kucinich.

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You can learn more at [www.thankyoult.org](http://www.thankyoult.org).

Lt. Watada speaks at Pacific Lutheran University. He is the first commissioned officer to refuse to go to Iraq.

### MAP OF LOCATIONS COVERED IN THIS ISSUE



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#### WHAT IS INDYKIDS?

IndyKids is a free newspaper and teaching tool that aims to inform children on current news and world events from a progressive perspective and to inspire in children a passion for social justice and learning. IndyKids is funded through donations and grants.

#### STAFF

Editors: Abby Gross, Amanda Vender • Design: Dave Baker  
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Website: Leticia John, Brian Garcia • Webhosting: Cary Shapiro

#### HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Just contact IndyKids! Adults and kids can write articles, take photos, contribute artwork and help distribute the paper.

#### SPECIAL THANKS TO

Common Language Project: [www.commonlanguageproject.net](http://www.commonlanguageproject.net)  
New York Collective of Radical Educators: [www.nycore.org](http://www.nycore.org)  
New York City Indymedia: [www.nyc.indymedia.org](http://www.nyc.indymedia.org)  
New York Public Library: [www.nypl.org](http://www.nypl.org)  
Teachers Unite: [www.teachersunite.net](http://www.teachersunite.net)  
Teaching for Change: [www.teachingforchange.org](http://www.teachingforchange.org)

#### THANK YOU to the following donors for supporting IndyKids!

BLUE STAR: \$50

Marj & Larry Long

Mona Sehgal & Jacob Levich

Neal Stone

Xavier Tayo

PURPLE STAR: \$300

Barbara Gross

SILVER STAR: \$500 +

Broadway United Church of Christ  
NYC Councilman Robert Jackson

RED STAR: \$100

Kiran Frey

Gary Martin

Harriet & Phillip Vender

GOLD STAR: \$5,000

North Star Fund

Chess: 1. Qd7 Nd7 2. Ne6#

ANSWERS

## News Briefs

### NATIONAL Oil Profits

The ExxonMobil oil company set a record for largest annual profit ever for a U.S. company. The record was \$39.5 billion in 2006, nine per cent higher than in 2005.

### Military Recruiters in Schools

The U.S. military advertises to try to get people to sign up. A lot of this advertising is aimed at high school students. The Department of Defense has a huge database of high school students' private information. Hope Reichbach received many calls from military recruiters when she was a high school student. Hope, with more students and lawyers, challenged the military. Hope said, "I got involved... because I just wanted the military to leave me and other students alone."

Because of their actions the military now limits the information that it collects and how it uses it. Still, high schools must give students' information to the military under the No Child Left Behind Act. Students can keep their information private by submitting an "opt-out" form available at [www.militaryfreezezone.org](http://www.militaryfreezezone.org).

### WORLD

### International Women's Day



March 8 is International Women's Day (IWD). The day was initiated in the 1900s as a way to honor women who were mistreated and undervalued in society. In 1908, 15,000 women protested in Manhattan to demand shorter working hours, better salaries and voting rights. Many countries established official days to honor women's rights yearly.

### SCIENCE

### Polar Bears at Risk

The ice on the North Pole has been melting fast over the last few years because global temperatures are rising. This has reduced the time that mother polar bears can feed themselves and their young. With no ice, there is no place for polar bears to live.



### Drug Company Sues India

Novartis, a pharmaceutical (drug) company, is suing the country of India. India decided not to give Novartis a patent (ownership rights) for the drug Gleevec, which is for people with breast cancer. This means that any company can make the drug. If Novartis wins, India might not be able to continue to make low-cost drugs that are sent all over the world. Drugs produced in India are used to treat about half of all HIV patients in poor countries.

### U.S. Health Care



Health care is a basic human right. The United States is the only industrialized nation that does not guarantee access to health care. Twenty-nine countries have a health care system that serves everyone.

# CLIMATE CHANGE: EARTH'S FATE IS IN OUR HANDS



## More Agreement That Humans Are Causing Climate Change

It may seem hard to believe, but people can actually change the weather and the earth's climate. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, a group made up of scientists and officials from 113 countries, released a new report on February 2. The report stated that it is "very likely" (or 90 percent certain) that climate change is caused by human activity.

Climate change is a very important and controversial issue. The biggest polluters in the world are industries

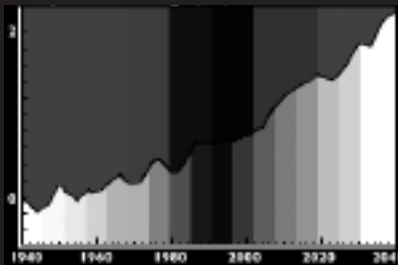
that make a lot of money, and there is a possibility that the Bush administration has tried to hide evidence of global warming to protect these industries. The U.S. House of Representatives held hearings in late January to investigate this accusation. The Union of Concerned Scientists testified that almost half of the government climate scientists surveyed said that they had been told by the government to delete references to "global warming" and "climate change" in their reports.

One scientist who testified, Dr. Drew Shindell of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), described how a report of his research on Antarctica was delayed and changed. He said, "It is a disservice to the public to distort or suppress the information needed for decision-making." -AV

### WHAT CAUSES CLIMATE CHANGE?

Every time we drive a car, fly somewhere in an airplane, watch TV or turn on a light, we use energy. This energy mainly comes from the burning of fossil fuels such as coal and oil. When these gases are burned, "greenhouse gases" are released into the atmosphere. This causes the earth to slowly warm up. Rising temperatures cause hurricanes, droughts, heatwaves and floods. Our society can work to develop safer forms of energy and transportation that will make our planet healthier.

### PROJECTED RISE OF EARTH'S TEMPERATURES



GRAPHIC: NEWS.BBC.CO.UK

## CLIMATE CAMP KIDS SAY ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

By WIETSE, UK Indymedia

Last year was the hottest year ever in the United Kingdom (UK). Recently the government and the media have been paying a lot of attention to climate change. Even UK Prime Minister Tony Blair said that it is "the biggest threat mankind faces."

Many people in the UK are changing the way they use energy. They are bicycling, buying food from local producers and recycling their waste. People are also angry. They have directed their anger at politicians who talk about these problems but do little to prevent them.

Hundreds of people came together and set up the "Climate Camp" last August to say they had had enough. The camp was held in the north of England near the coal-powered Drax power station, a station that has produced much pollution. A group of kids marched to the gates of the



Kids voice their opposition to a polluting power station in the UK.

UK INDYMEDIA

power station to demand that it be shut down.

Other people blockaded a nuclear power station, which meant that no one could enter or leave the station. In September, a large group of children and adults occupied a runway at East Midlands Airport near Nottingham to demand a stop to short-haul flights. These are flights that only go a short

distance, and passengers and cargo could easily take lower-polluting modes of transportation, such as trains.

Many groups have been set up in the UK to actively fight climate change. The Climate Camp is taking place again this year, and many groups from all over the country are already taking part in organizing it.



# A STRUGGLE FOR LAND: NATIVE AMERICANS TODAY

## HISTORY

Millions of native people inhabited North America thousands of years before the Europeans arrived. How did the Europeans colonize the land and push the native people out?

The majority of native people, over 95 percent in some areas, died of European diseases. Others were massacred by the colonizers in what many historians call genocide (deliberate killing of an entire group of people).

## NATIVES TODAY

Today Native Americans live in every state and province in the United States and Canada.



The U.S. government recognizes 562 different tribes, and even more are recognized locally.

## BY THE NUMBERS

**4.3 million** people in the United States are estimated to be Native American (1.4% of the population)

**1.3 million** people in Canada are of aboriginal ancestry (4.4% of the population)

**381,000** people in the United States speak a Native American language

**538,300** Native Americans in the United States live on reservations

## VOCABULARY

**Aboriginal (a-bor-i-ji-nal):** Having existed in a region from the beginning

**First Nations:** The term used in Canada for Native Americans

**Indigenous (in-di-gen-us) people:** People who are native to the land where they live

**Reservation:** A piece of land set aside by the United States or Canadian government for native people who have been pushed off of their own land

**Treaty:** An agreement between nations

## In Canada, Native Population Challenges Land Developers

By GRIFFIN EPSTEIN

A year ago kids and adults from the Six Nations (an organization of six tribes native to North America) near the town of Caledonia in Ontario, Canada, climbed over a fence and set up tents on a piece of land that was stolen from their people hundreds of years ago. Six Nations people have started living again on this land.

The land that the people of Six Nations are reclaiming represents a small piece of a large tract that was given to them by the British government in a treaty in 1784. The treaty guaranteed that the Canadian government could not develop or build on that land without permission from Six Nations people. But the government has found different ways of pushing Six Nations people to give up pieces of this land. A company called Henco bought one of those pieces in 1992.

Many people questioned whether the sale of the land to Henco was legal. The dispute delayed construction of Henco's luxury homes until 2005. When construction began, Six Nations people blocked the construction and pushed the tractors out. Many people in Canada and the U.S. have supported their actions. However, Six Nations also faced opposition. In April 2006 the Ontario Provincial Police raided the site and arrested sixteen people, some of whom were teenagers. Since then, the people



of Six Nations have been in negotiations with the Canadian government over who has the right to be on this land.

The people of Six Nations want the Canadian government to respect their rights to the land. They also want to plant and live on it. The developers had cut down the trees to build houses, but when Six Nations people arrived they planted seeds and dug ponds for the snapping turtles and fish. Now, instead of suburban homes, you can see swaying reeds and animals rebuilding their homes.



SHERYL NADLER / THE HAMILTON SPECTATOR

“TREAT THE EARTH WELL. IT WAS NOT GIVEN TO YOU BY YOUR PARENTS, IT WAS LOANED TO YOU BY YOUR CHILDREN.”

—Lakota Sioux proverb



AXEL-JACOB.DE

**MAP:** This map shows the original lands of Native Americans across North America.

**PHOTO ABOVE:** Six Nations people gather around a drum traditionally used in large gatherings. Six Nations is made up of six tribes in Canada and the United States. PHOTO: TURTLE ISLAND NATIVE NETWORK

**PHOTO LEFT:** Members of Six Nations at the camp they set up in Ontario, Canada, on native land that has been sold to developers.



## WHAT IS SIX NATIONS?

Six Nations is an organization of native nations or tribes in the Iroquois language family. They call themselves the **Haudenosaunee** (ho-dee-no-SO-nee), meaning “People Building a Long House.” The Six Nations are the Mohawk, Cayuga, Oneida, Onondaga, Seneca and Tuscarora tribes. In the U.S., they live in upstate New York and Pennsylvania. In Canada, they live in Ontario and Quebec.

Six Nations has practiced a participatory democracy (meaning everyone takes part) for over 800 years. This form of government inspired the American Constitution.

## THREATS TO NATIVE LAND

Sometimes, when the Canadian and United States governments interfere with native lands it can be a disaster for the environment. Can you imagine if someone came into your house and started mining for uranium, drilling for oil, cutting down your trees or dumping waste in your backyard?

## STRUGGLES

According to the Canadian Broadcasting Company, native children are the poorest in Canada. In the U.S., unemployment and school dropout rates for Native Americans are among the highest in the nation.

Native people have been organizing to have their voices heard for centuries. In the United States there are many politically active native groups. There are even native groups just for youth.

**National Indian Youth Council:** [www.niyc-alb.org](http://www.niyc-alb.org)

**Native Youth Movement:** [freewebs.com/mnnyym](http://freewebs.com/mnnyym)

## HOW YOU CAN LEARN MORE

There may be a Native American reservation or museum in your area. John Fadden is a Mohawk who founded the **Six Nations Indian Museum** in northern New York State. John was born on the Akwesasne (a-kwa-SAS-nay) reservation, a territory that spans both the U.S. and Canada. He is an artist and teacher.

He says the reservation today is “like a rural community. People have jobs just like in any other rural community.”

“Most kids east of the Mississippi don’t know Indians are here,” John told IndyKids. “If they look at old movies, they see Indians riding horses circling covered wagons. When they study Indians, they learn about the [kind of] house we used to live in.

There is little as to what we’re doing today.”

John says there’s a lot kids can do to learn about Native Americans. “Go to places where Indians gather and speak with them. Read books.”

Visit Six Nations Indian Museum (open in the summer): 1462 Country Route 60, Onchiota, NY; (518) 891-2299; <http://www.tuscaroras.com/graydeer/pages/sixnamus.htm>

**WORD PLAY!** Try to unscramble these words related to Native Americans:

1. one dig in us = \_\_\_\_\_
2. nerves ratio = \_\_\_\_\_
3. try eat = \_\_\_\_\_
4. ant is on six = \_\_\_\_\_
5. ham wok = \_\_\_\_\_
6. dry coca me = \_\_\_\_\_

Answers at bottom of this page.

The Tree of Peace, by artist John Fadden





## Letters

These letters were submitted by sixth graders at John Jay Secondary School for Law in Brooklyn, NY in response to the IndyKids cover story: "Tomato's Juicy Secret."

McDonald's should pay the farm workers more money because nowadays you can't get anything to eat with 40 cents. Also, they're only asking for one penny more for every 32-pound bucket of tomatoes. That isn't a lot of money.

McDonald's needs to pay those workers more because if they don't, I will tell my family who always go to McDonald's that we can't go back.

**DONTAE**

I feel Immokalee workers should be supported by everyone. Don't go to McDonald's ... Support the Immokalee [workers].

**DANIEL**

The immigrants who pick the tomatoes should be paid more. For all of the work they do, the pickers get paid so little. The Mexicans have families to take care of but not a lot of money to do that.

**NATALIA**

I think that the Immokalee workers are being unfairly paid. After reading your article, I would not look at Ronald McDonald the same way again.

**STEPHANIE**

I think the Mexican immigrants should be paid two dollars a bucket. I found out that one farm worker can work for one hour and can't even get one happy meal!

**ANGELIA**



### RAISE YOUR HAND!

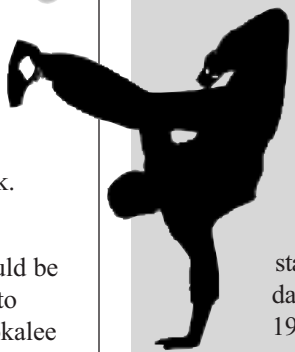
Let us know what you think. Email IndyKids at [indykids@indymedia.org](mailto:indykids@indymedia.org) or write to P.O. Box 1417, New York NY 10276

# HIP HOP HOORAY

By GRIFFIN EPSTEIN

**D**id you know that hip hop started in New York City?

In the 1940s, a city planner in New York named Robert Moses demolished a section of the South Bronx. People living there who could afford to move to the suburbs fled to Westchester and Long Island, but the poor, immigrant communities were left with very few places to go.



By the 1960s, those who were still living in the South Bronx began taking over the torn down buildings and abandoned lots – "tagging," or putting their mark, on them. People started using these spaces for dancing, and, by the late 1970s, MCs were rapping over the dance beats and releasing records. Often, rappers and dancers would compete in "battles," passing raps or dances back and forth, channeling their aggression in a healthy way.

If you listen to hip hop now, you're not alone. Hip hop is popular all over the world. In Mongolia, Haiti and the Philippines, hip hop culture includes freestyle break dancing and rap-rock remix. People in El Salvador and Honduras listen to reggaeton. In Ecuador and Colombia, there is capoeira – a form of martial arts that incorporates live drumming. In India and Pakistan, people listen to bhangra, a fusion of

**A**t Flushing International High School in Queens, NY students learned about hip hop history – the days when "the high was creativity rather than drugs," said music teacher Beth Mabon-Grass. Students also wrote their own raps. Can you write one?

**Jamie C., Jamie A, Qiong Qiong, Brandy and Dan, from China and Korea:**

*We were walking on the street  
They were staring face to the feet  
Closing the boys-girls gap  
Making their own territorial map  
Don't try to guess my mind  
Our heart is dark as it is blind  
Move your freaking eyes away  
Don't waste time of your day*

**Luis Angel and Paolo, from Colombia and the Dominican Republic:**

*Creemos que vivimos en paz y armonía  
No notamos que ya es nuestra última agonía  
Guerra sin parar  
Personas inocentes mueren al azar*

**In English, that means:**

*We think we live in peace and harmony  
We don't notice that it's our last agony  
War without end  
Innocent people dying all around*

Punjabi singing and traditional instruments. Chinese hip hop emerged in Hong Kong, spread to Taiwan and only recently reached the mainland. There, Chinese instruments are fused with hip hop as we know it.



Students work together to describe what hip hop is like in their native country.

PHOTO BY AMANDA VENDER

## Music Soothes Asthma Sufferers

By ABBY GROSS

**K**ids with asthma (AZ-mah) know what it's like to have trouble breathing because asthma is a chronic (long-lasting) disease that causes airways – the tubes that carry air to the lungs – to become swollen in reaction to exercise, cold weather or anything irritating.

Inhalers are among the most common treatments for kids with asthma, but at the Louis Armstrong Center for Music & Medicine at Beth Israel Hospital in New York City, researchers are studying the effects of music therapy on the disease. It is believed that music therapy can help breathing and ease anxiety and depression related to asthma.

The Center's Asthma Initiative Program (AIP) provides a free recorder (a wind instrument) and journal to each kid enrolled in the six-month program, and kids are asked to write daily about their symptoms and feelings.

They meet weekly for therapy, where they play a variety of instruments, listen to music and talk.

"We conduct music therapy in ways to encourage a pleasurable and successful experience, so breathing might not feel so much like work," said Erica Rondina, Program Coordinator and Music Therapist. "The kids develop tools they use to gain control over their body and their symptoms."

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Teachers in NYC, the AIP visits schools, too! Call (212) 420-2592 for more information.

## Auf Deutsch / IN YOUR FIRST VOICE / In English

**Many students in the U.S. start school speaking a language other than English. Knowing and remembering a first language helps students to learn English and do better in school. If your first language is something other than English, practice it and don't forget it. You'll be glad you did!**

**Wen Chen, 12, of Middle School 131 in New York City's Chinatown, wrote this essay. She is from Bielefeld, Germany.**

**DAS LETZTE KAPITEL** von *The Stories Julian Tells Me* mit dem Titel "Who Might Be My Best Friend?" Erinnernte mich an meine erste beste Freundin, deren Name Anja war.

Wir waren bei mir zu Hause und irgendwie, ich habe es schon vergessen, hatte eine von uns eine Idee. Es war einfach aus Laune, dass wir uns einen kleinen Zettel holten, schrieben unsere Wünsche, die mir heute ziemlich lächerlich vorkommen, auf. Anja konnte meinen nicht lesen und ich ihren auch nicht, wir schmissen sie einfach weg und hofften, dass unsere Wünsche erfüllt würden, auch wenn sie ziemlich unsinnig waren.

In Deutschland ist das mit den Zetteln eine Gewohnheit. Ich habe Anja seit zwei Jahren nicht mehr gesehen. Was sie wohl gerade macht.



WEN CHEN

**THE LAST CHAPTER** of the book *The Stories Julian Tells Me* is entitled "Who Might Be My Best Friend?" This chapter reminds me of my first best friend, Anja.

One time we were at my house when one of us came up with an idea, though I can't remember how. We were in a silly mood and decided to grab a little slip of paper and write our wishes on it. Today these wishes seem rather silly to me! Anja was not allowed to read mine, and I was not allowed to read hers. Then we stashed away the slip of paper someplace and hoped that our wishes would be fulfilled someday, even if it seemed rather ridiculous.

Stashing away your written wishes is just something people do in Germany. I have not seen Anja for two years now. I wonder what she's been up to.

## Museums Bring the Fun Indoors

# GO ON A CULTURAL TREASURE HUNT!

In winter, having fun inside can be a challenge. How many movies can you watch? How many video games can you play? So why not try something different and go to a museum? At a museum, you can find treasures of art, culture and history.

Most museums hand you a treasure map at the front door, so you can follow the often twisty passages and find the cool stuff. Of course, walking through a museum without a map can be fun, too. What will you find where you least expect it?

Here are some cool museums to try across the country:

### ▣ New York Hall of Science in Queens, NY

Visit the rocket park, a science playground, and exhibits that explore the science of sports, sound and music, and the ways organisms survive on other planets.

### ▣ Museum of Television and Radio Manhattan, NY, and Los Angeles, CA

Watch television programming dating back to 1918! Kids nine or older can take part in the Re-Creating Radio workshop, where they're taught how to produce an old-time radio show.

### ▣ National Museum of the American Indian Manhattan, NY, and Washington, DC

You'll find displays of American Indian costumes, cultural objects and art.

See gold from Andean cultures, stone carvings from North America, featherwork from Amazonian tribes, and much more.

-NORA GOLD  
AND ABBY GROSS

A giant model of DNA at the New York Hall of Science.



WWW.NYHALLSCI.ORG

## Book Review

### LIFE IN PRISON

Written by Stanley "Tookie" Williams with Barbara Becnel

As a teen, Stanley "Tookie" Williams thought prison was glamorous. He joined a notorious gang in Los Angeles called the Crips, and eventually became the gang's leader. Convicted of killing four people and sent to prison, Tookie was sentenced to death. While held in prison, Tookie decided to reach out to kids who are at risk of following in his footsteps, show them that there is nothing glamorous about prison, and urge them to make better life choices than he had.

With help from activist/journalist Barbara Becnel, Tookie wrote *Life in Prison* to show young readers that life behind bars is hellish.

In the book, Tookie describes his day-to-day activities, and the conditions he portrays range from annoying to downright dangerous. Tookie describes the harsh rules; loss of privacy and personal privileges; fear, distrust, and paranoia; unending violence and sexual abuse; unbearable odors and noise; and homesickness and loneliness – not to mention the tendency to go stir-crazy in confinement! He challenges kids to spend ten hours alone in a bathroom at home so they may begin to understand how it feels to live in captivity. After each chapter, the book invites kids to think about what bothers them, and to compare these gripes to that of a prisoner.

Royalties (money authors earn) from sales of this book are donated to the International Street Peace Network.

-LUCINE KASBARIAN



## PAYING FOR ATTENTION

EVERY YEAR IN winter, families gather to watch the Super bowl, but not everyone watching is interested in football. In between fumbles and touchdowns, big companies like Frito-Lay, Pepsi and Volvo will pay over \$2.5 million for just thirty seconds of commercial airtime.

You may think that these companies are getting ripped off, but in fact, they stand to make a lot more money. The Super bowl is the one television event that is watched in full by about half of all Americans, all at the very same time. This year, according to Nielsen Media Research, 93.2 million people tuned in.

How else do companies get your attention? Billboards and buses are just a few of the places you see advertisements. Can you think of any more places?

Can you think of some ways advertisements could be used to help the world? -AG



# Make the Right Moves

By JONATHAN TURBIN

Here's what some New York City kids say about the grand game of **CHESS**:

### DANIEL HONIKAN, 6

"I like chess because I love the way the queen moves. I like it when I focus. Chess is fun."

### JEFFREY YIN, 11

"I like chess because it helps you analyze things. And it's not just on the board, but also in real life. My favorite pieces are the queen and the knights. The queen can move like a rook and a bishop combined. The knight is one of the best pieces to work with because of its odd movements."

### RAQUEL HOSEIN, 10

"I was recently part of a team that won two trophies for my school in a citywide tournament. In the first game, my opponent put his king in check diagonally across from my pawn. His own pieces were blocking him so he had nowhere to go to escape checkmate. In the second game, I put the other player in check after he castled because he accidentally put his king in the wrong place. We were playing by the tournament rules of "touch move," so his mistake cost him. Whenever my opponent makes an error, I use quick thinking and good strategy to take advantage of it.

I like chess because I always want a good challenge. If you challenge yourself at something, you're going to achieve. There is no other game like chess that requires such intensive study and concentration."





## How to ...



# Break a Guinness Book World Record

By BOAZ FRANKEL, World Record Holder

In October 2006 I became the world record holder for most high fives in an hour (408 high fives; the previous record was 308). You can break records in almost anything, from doing the most jumping jacks to baking the biggest cupcake!

### 1 Find a record you want to break.

Look at [www.guinnessworldrecords.com](http://www.guinnessworldrecords.com), or see the Guinness World Records book published every year.

### 2 Schedule your record-breaking attempt on the Guinness website.

Call reporters at your local newspapers, radio and TV stations and let them know when, where and what you'll be doing.

### 3 Collect pictures, articles, TV clips and two letters from witnesses of your attempt.

Then send it all off to Guinness World Records along with the forms on their website.



## Test Your Knowledge!

How much do you know about Native Americans?

**#1** The person who first called Native Americans "Indians" was:

- a. John Smith
- b. Christopher Columbus
- c. James Madison

**#2** All of these words have Native American origin except:

- a. Chocolate
- b. Potato
- c. Hurricane
- d. Barbecue
- e. Tobacco
- f. Hot Dog

**#3** The states with the highest percentage of Native Americans are:

- a. New Mexico and Alaska
- b. South Dakota and Montana
- c. Delaware and Arizona

Answers on bottom of page 2

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- Bluestockings Bookstore, 172 Allen St. (b/w Stanton & Rivington)
- Revolution Bookstore, 9 W. 19th St.
- Central Children's Room/Donnell Library, 20 W. 53rd St.
- Chatham Square Library, 33 E. Broadway
- Jefferson Market Library, 425 6th Ave. (at 9th St.)
- Morningside Heights Library, 2900 Broadway (at W. 113th St.)

#### BROOKLYN

- Central Library, Grand Army Plaza

#### THE BRONX

- Parkchester Library, 1985 Westchester Ave.
- Castle Hill Library, 947 Castle Hill Ave.
- Fordham/Bronx Library Center, 310 East Kingsbridge Road

#### QUEENS

- Terraza Café, 40-19 Gleane St. (at 83rd St./Roosevelt Ave.)

#### STATEN ISLAND

- Todt Hill-Westerleigh Library, 2550 Victory Blvd.
- Huguenot Park Library, 830 Huguenot Ave.
- Richmondtown Library, 200 Clarke Ave.

Tis all a Checker-board  
of Nights and Days  
Where Destiny with Men  
for Pieces plays:  
Hither and thither moves,  
and mates and slays,  
And one by one back  
in the Closet lays

-RUBAIYAT OF OMAR KHAYYAM,  
trans. Edward Fitzgerald



## SOLVE THIS CHESS PUZZLE

White to checkmate black in two moves.

Hint: White moves the queen!

Answer on bottom of page 2

STEVE KELLEY/THE TIMES-PICAYUNE

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